

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method for accessing a networked printer comprising:
providing print job information to the networked printer;
receiving a request for print job data; and
providing print job data in response to the request.

2. A method according to Claim 1, further comprising:
issuing an enumerate-queue command to the networked printer to obtain
information regarding a localized print queue associated with the networked printer.

3. A method according to Claim 2, further comprising:
receiving a response to the enumerate-queue command, wherein the response
comprises a number of element in the print queue, an order of elements in the print queue
scheduled to be printed, the order that completed jobs in the print queue were printed, and
an estimated time that a print job will complete printing or a time that the print job actually
completed printing.

4. A method according to Claim 1, wherein the request for print job data is a
transmit job command.

5. A method according to Claim 1, further comprising
initiating a connection with the networked printer; and
closing the connection with the networked printer after sending the print job
information.

6. A method according to Claim 1, further comprising:
sending a connection request to the network printer, wherein the network
printer closes the connection after queuing the print job information.

7. A system for accessing a networked printer comprising:
means for providing print job information to the networked printer;

means for receiving a request for print job data; and
means for providing print job data in response to the request.

8. A system according to Claim 7, further comprising:

5 means for issuing an enumerate-queue command to the networked printer to
obtain information regarding a localized print queue associated with the networked printer.

9. A system according to Claim 8, further comprising:

10 means for receiving a response to the enumerate-queue command, wherein
the response comprises a number of element in the print queue, an order of elements in the
print queue scheduled to be printed, the order that completed jobs in the print queue were
printed, and an estimated time that a print job will complete printing or a time that the print
job actually completed printing.

10. A system according to Claim 7, wherein the request for print job data is a
transmit job command.

11. A system according to Claim 7, further comprising

15 means for initiating a connection with the networked printer; and
means for closing the connection with the networked printer after sending the
print job information.

12. A system according to Claim 7, further comprising:

20 means for sending a connection request to the network printer, wherein the
network printer closes the connection after queuing the print job information.

13. A network printing system comprising:

25 a printer connected to a network for receiving and printing print jobs in
response to print requests from host computers, said printer including a localized print queue
for storing job information for each of said host computers attempting to gain print access of
said printer.

14. A network printing system according to claim 13, wherein said printer initiates a print connection with one of said host computers corresponding to said job information at a top of said localized print queue when said printer becomes available.

15. A network printing system according to claim 13, further comprising a plurality of network services protocol/ports for connecting between said host computers and said printer.

16. A network printing system according to claim 15, wherein said network services protocol/ports comprise imaging device protocol (IDP) ports and non-IDP ports.

17. A network printing system according to claim 16, further comprising an IDP emulator for emulating IDP print requests from non-IDP ports so that both IDP and non-IDP print requests may be queued in said localized print queue.

18. A network printing system according to claim 17, wherein job information stored in said localized print queue comprises the print job name, creator application, estimated print time, number of pages to print, number of pages in print job, document status, image content and media.

19. A network printing system comprising:
a printer connected to a network for receiving and printing print jobs in response to print requests from host computers, said printer including a localized print queue.

20. A network printing system according to claim 19, wherein said localized print queue stores job information for each of said host computers attempting to gain print access of said printer.